COUNCIL OF THE FACULTY OF ARTS AND SCIENCE

Minutes of the meeting held on Friday, February 3, 1984

PRESENT: D. Taddeo, Chairman, J. Chaikelson, R. Roy, M. Singer, J. Princz, C. Foster, K. Argheyd, M. Armstrong, T. Arbuckle-Maag, C. Barton, K. Bindon, A. Broes, L. Crysler, D. Dicks, A. Galler, D. McDougall, S. McEvenue, G. Newsham, M. Oppenheim, R. Pallen, B. Petrie, H. Proppe, O. Schwelb, R.Sharma, W. Sellers, H. Shulman, G. Trudel, G. Valaskakis, L. Van Toch, K. Herrmann, C. Langford, B. Murdock, D. Konig, S. Richard, A. Megann, D. McArdle, L. Cobb, P. Gott, J. Griffin, D. Schuhmacher, J. Ryan

Absent with regrets: F. MacLeod, C. Bertrand, J. Doyle, M. Hewitt.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m.

2. Approval of Agenda

84-2-1 It was moved and seconded (Barton/Valaskasis) to approve the agenda as distributed.

Vote: Carried

CLOSED SESSION

[redacted]

OPEN SESSION

4. Chairman's Remarks

The Chairman reported that the Writing Test was given again in late January and that approximately 50 students wrote it. The pass rate was 50%.

5. Elections

Dean Taddeo reported that the Steering Committee had nominated

Prof. L. Crysler to serve on the Advisory Search Committee for the Principal of Liberal Arts College.

84-2-3 It was moved and seconded (Galler/Ryan) to approve the appointment of Prof. L. Crysler to the Advisory Search Committee for the Principal of Liberal Arts College.

Vote: Carried

Dean Taddeo reported that he had received a letter from Tim Lapin informing him of his resignation from the Curriculum Committee (Division III).

6. Role of Research at Concordia University

The Chairman read the resolutions adopted by the Faculty Council on November 5, 1983 when the Fahey Report was considered:

"... a single dean of Graduate Studies & Research would combine the offices of Dean of Graduate Studies and the Associate Vice-Rector, Academic (Research)."

82-11-6 (Ryan/Oppenheim) to support Recommendation 58.

Vote: Defeated

82-11-7 (Maag/Bertrand) The Arts and Science Faculty Council recommends that the responsibility for Graduate Studies be given to the Academic Deans and that University-wide responsibility for research be assigned to the Vice-Rector, Academic.

Vote: Carried

The Chairman proposed that a Committee of the Whole round-table discussion take place and that members of Council limit themselves to one intervention, after which a straw vote could be taken and then the meeting would revert to a regular one.

It was suggested that the discussion would become in conflict by virtue of the fact that it is not known what the structure of the Arts and Science Faculty is to be. Although it has been decided that the Deans should play a greater role in terms of graduate studies and research funding, it is not known what the relationships will be of the Deans or Vice-Provosts, and the Provost.

Dean Taddeo replied that he saw it as being more dependent upon the current situation in the University where the Research portfolio is in the hands of an Associate Vice-Rector Research who reports to a Vice-Rector Academic and thought that from the discussions that had taken place in the past year it was clear that for the position to have the profile it needs to have that the choices are not many, either Vice-Rector Research, Associate

Vice-Rector, Research, or Dean of Graduate Studies and Research, regardless of the responsibilities that the Academic Deans at the Faculty level would assume.

Prof. Knelman asked if the question on the agenda was simply that of the administrative structure of Research in the University and not the content or orientation or goals or guidelines. He said he thought the latter should be given priority as a more funadmental set of questions. He said he believes that we are living in a time when the nature, role, structure, and orientation of research at universities is becoming increasingly critical. New directions are available and ought to be considered prior to the administrative structure.

Dean Taddeo replied that he was willing to stand by his ruling to the effect that the administrative structure be discussed insofar as some of the issues raised by Prof. Knelman were discussed at length last year at Faculty Council and Senate. He thought that the issue raised by Prof. Knelman could be addressed subsequently but thought it necessary for Faculty Council to have some input to Senate on the administrative structure for its March meeting.

84-2-4 It was moved and seconded (Konig/Richard) to move into a Committee of the Whole.

Vote: Carried

Prof. Sharma said that he had read all the documents and was very impressed. He suggested that Council accept two of the recommendations at this meeting. Recommendations 1 and 4 submitted by the Board of Graduate Studies (ASFC 84-2-D1).

Prof. Langford concurred with that suggestion.

Dean Roy said he tended to favour the notion of the position of Vice-Rector Research since there is a tendency in Quebec to give that level of prestige and visibility to the portfolio. He thought that a good part of the portfolio would be external work and liaison work with government and industry, while still recognizing that that might not serve other sectors of the University. He said he would like to see a separate Dean of Graduate Studies reporting to such an individual. He suspected that no matter how the area was structured it was likely that there would be two people doing the job. He thought that the question of whether or not the Vice-Rector should control the Library or the Computer Services to be a thorny issue and should be consicered.

Prof. Pallen said that to approve recommendation 1 and 4 would not change very much except to bring the two offices physically closer together since we already have a Dean of Graduate Studies and a Vice-Rector that looks after research. He thought that the present Dean of Graduate Studies is at a disadvantage at meetings with other Deans of Graduate Studies because he does

not have research under his control. He supported Prof. Sharma's suggestion.

Mr. McArdle thought that the University's reputation in research was less dependent upon what the title of the person in charge happens to be or whether the two posts are united in one body than on simply what work is done over a period of time to make a name for itself.

Prof. Ryan spoke in favour of two persons but did not think that either one should be called Vice-Rector of Research. He thought that the research function belongs under the general administration of the Vice-Rector Academic and that the research officer should report to him.

Dean Chaikelson said she favoured having a Vice-Rector Research not an Associate Vice-Rector Research because it was clear to her that there was need for someone with status at this University to represent the University on aspects of research with industry and government. Because the Vice-Rector Academic will be very busy with internal matters the Vice-Rector Research will be needed to meet the outside community, to serve on bodies such as NSERC, to deal with the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, and the Provincial government. She said she did not know if it would be necessary also to have a Dean of Graduate Studies, but if there is to be one she thought he/she should report to both the Vice-Rector Academic and the Vice-Rector Research depending upon the issue involved.

Prof. Maag did not think that to have a Vice-Rector Research would preclude having a Dean of Graduate Studies. She agreed that the Research position ought to be at the level of Vice-Rector.

Prof. Proppe said that one of his concerns was that the portfolio of the Vice-Rector would tend to develop a life of its own and would become further and further removed from strictly academic concerns and morepreoccupied with generating funds from industry. He noted the current difficulties about conflicts with academic interests. He did not think that the duties of the office of the Dean of Graduate Studies were so onerous that they could not be handled by the Vice-Rector Research. He suggested also that the responsibility for the Library and academic Computer Services could also be handled by the Vice-Rector Research.

Prof. Armstrong reported that her Department supported the notion that the position should be at the Vice-Rector level because of the need for external visibility.

Provost Singer thought that the fundamental issue this year is the same as the fundamental issue discussed last year, namely how to get the Vice-Rector Academic and the Vice-Rector Research to coordinate their activities. He thought that no new ideas

had been put forward in the discussion and that the important thing for Council to do is to set the tone for the direction in which it wants to go.

Prof. McEvenue said he wished to hear more about the philosophy behind research because the last time it was discussed, it was done so on a very superficial level. He agreed with Prof. Proppe that the relationship of research to the University has hardly been touched and he thought it should be discussed. He said he was in favour of one person being in charge of Research and Graduate Studies but did not think there should be a Dean of Graduate Studies. He explained that he did not like the idea of the Vice-Rector being just in charge of research, one who would likely be chosen from the business community, because it would result in turning the University into a servant of the government or of business, and there would no longer be a university operation. Whereas, if the person is also in charge of Graduate Studies, it will be defined then in the context within which research is understood. To have a Dean of Graduate Studies makes sense only if you have a Faculty of Graduate Studies. He stated that his main reason for wanting one person made responsible for Research and Graduate Studies, if not financially then in intellectual context, it is the more important operation of the Faculty and the Deans of the Faculty should be responsible for Graduate Studies.

84-2-5 It was moved and seconded (Singer/Chaikelson) to move out of the Committee of the Whole.

Vote: Carried

84-2-6 It was moved and seconded (Chaikelson/Sharma) that this Council recommend to Senate that the position of Vice-Rector Research be created.

Asked to give a reason for her motion and to explain how it differs from last year's resolution, Dean Chaikelson said that she felt that there was a need for such a position and that Council could not resolve the problem in a single motion. She thought that once Council decided on the question of should there be a Vice-Rector Research, it could then determine if there should be a Dean of Graduate Studies or whether the two positions should be combined.

Prof. Shulman asked for an explanation of what the relationship would be between the Vice-Rector Research and the Provost, and Vice-Provosts, that is the relationship of the research position to the academic constituency.

The Chairman explained that at the present time we have three Vice-Rectors in the University: Vice-Rector for Administration and Finance, Vice-Rector Human Resources and Professional Faculties, and a Vice-Rector for Arts and Science, and up to two

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years ago, there was a fourth Vice-Rector in charge of Student Services and Registrar's Office and Admissions. The Board of Governors has instructed the University to reduce the number of Vice-Rectors Academic to one. He presumed that the Vice-Rectorate Finance and Administration would remain and that the third Vice-Rectorate would assume most of the functions which the two Vice-Rectors Academic now take as the second half of their portfolio. In effect, it would create a fourth Vice-Rector portfolio if Council chose to vote in that direction.

Dean Chaikelson said that that was to prejudge the issue for all we know is that there is to be one Vice-Rector Academic and to recommend that there be a Vice-Rector Research is not necessarily to recommend that there be four Vice-Rectors.

Provost Singer thought that the constituencies should be told that this issue will perhaps be reopened at the Faculty level and that time ought to be allowed for discussion of the issue in Departments.

84-2-7 It was moved and seconded (Singer/McEvenue) to table the motion on the understanding that it will be discussed no later than one month from now.

Vote: Carried

7. Adjournment

84-2-8 It was moved and seconded (Proppe/Maag) to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: Carried